THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 1st March 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 3 p.m., Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

House Surgeons and House Physicians in hospitals.

* 61 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of House Surgeons and House Physicians in the Government Hospital for Women and Children and the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital;

(*b*) what facilities exist in these two hospitals for their residence there;

(*c*) whether all the places have been filled up;

(*d*) whether sufficient number of applications are not forthcoming for the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital;

(*e*) whether the selection and appointment of House Surgeons and House Physicians are made separately for each hospital or for all the hospitals together and then the selected candidates allotted to each hospital;

(*f*) whether the wishes of the selected candidates are taken into account in allotting them to various hospitals;

(*g*) whether the selection of these candidates is made by the Surgeon-General or by a Selection Committee; and

(*h*) whether the same procedure is adopted in regard to appointment of House Surgeons and House Physicians in the mufassal hospitals also?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"(*a*) The number of posts in the Women and Children Hospital, Madras, is 9 and in the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital, Madras, 11.

"(*b*) Quarters are generally provided for paid House Surgeons and House Physicians only. Quarters are available for 9 persons in the Women and Children Hospital and for 8 in the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital.

"(*c*) One post of an unpaid House Surgeon in the Government Hospital for Women and Children has yet to be filled up.

"(*d*) The answer is in the affirmative so far as newly passed out women medical graduates are concerned.

"(*e*) Selection is made at the same time for all hospitals and candidates are allotted to each hospital.

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" (f) Yes, as far as possible subject to the availability of vacancies.

" (g) The selection is ordinarily made by the Surgeon-General. This year the Surgeon-General appointed a committee to make the selection.

" (h) The answer is in the affirmative."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" As the Hon. the Minister has found out that sufficient number is not forthcoming, I would like to know whether she has enquired into the fact why a sufficient number of applications are not forthcoming with regard to the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" Applications for appointment of House Surgeons and House Physicians were received for the General Hospital but no applications were received for the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital."

Service conditions of House Surgeons and House Physicians.

* 62 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state with reference to the answer to the question No. 2 answered on 31st July 1946 whether any steps are proposed to be taken for the improvement of the service conditions of House Surgeons and House Physicians, and if so, what they are?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" The matter is under consideration."

Fine imposed on Chingleput Wholesale Co-operative Stores.

* 63 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Chingleput district imposed a fine of Rs. 250 on the Chingleput Wholesale Co-operative Stores;

(b) whether it is a fact that on the remonstrance of the President of the Chingleput Wholesale Co-operative Stores, the Collector has cancelled the fines; and

(c) the reason for the imposition of the fine, and the grounds on which the fine was cancelled?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" (a) The Collector of Chingleput ordered the forfeiture of the Wholesale Co-operative Stores' security deposit of Rs. 250.

" (b) & (c) The circumstances under which the Collector ordered the forfeiture of the deposit and subsequently cancelled his orders are as follows: The Taluk Supply Officer, Conjeeveram, inspected the sub-depot of the Chingleput Co-operative Wholesale Stores on 23rd April 1946 and reported certain irregularities in the accounts relating to paddy stocks maintained by the depot. The Collector ordered the forfeiture